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KILLEEN AIRPORT AWARDED FEDERAL GRANTS

(KILLEEN, TEXAS): U.S. Congressman John R. Carter (TX-31) today announced that Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport has been awarded two grants totaling more than \$1.3 million by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

"Killeen is the home to our nation's largest military installation and home to so many of our brave men and women in uniform," said Rep. Carter. "These funds will greatly support the airport, and improve the travel experience for the families visiting loved ones at Ft. Hood, and the surrounding community. This grant will also benefit economic development in Central Texas, and to those who travel through the Killeen-Ft. Hood Regional Airport."

Grant funding was made available through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which provides grants to public agencies for the planning and development of public-use airports that are included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems.

Killeen will receive \$900,000 to fund an airport master plan study and \$400,500 for the initial phase of engineering for the replacement of passenger boarding bridges and acquisition of wildlife hazard reduction equipment.

"The airport serves an essential role in our community by connecting soldiers and civilians to locations across the country and throughout the world, and these grants will help us improve the services we provide," said Mayor Scott Cosper. "Congressman Carter's tireless efforts in Washington have once again brought federal funding to benefit our community, and we are grateful for his support."

"These grants will provide our airport the ability to chart our future development, keep the airport environment safe and continue to offer our customers the high quality services for which we are known," said Matt Van Valkenburgh, Killeen's executive director of aviation.